

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 AID-05 PC-05 /083 W
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R 101604Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9411

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

AMEMBASSY CONAKRY

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY PARIS

UNCLAS OUAGADOUGOU 0831

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECIN, OTRA, XY

SUBJECT: PRESIDENT LAMIZANA'S STATEMENT ON CEAO SUMMIT
MEETING

REF: OUAGA 824

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT READ BY PRESIDENT
LAMIZANA OVER OUAGA RADIO EVENING APRIL 9.

2. QUOTE: WITH REGARD TO THE FINAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED
AT END OF CEAO SUMMIT CONFERENCE WHICH WAS HELD IN NIAMEY,
I AM VERY DISSATISFIED AND WISH TO EMPHASIZE FOLLOWING
POINTS.

I MUST FIRST POINT OUT THAT THIS IS NOT A JOINT
COMMUNIQUE APPROVED AND SIGNED BY THE CHIEFS OF STATE.

IF I DID NOT WALK OUT OF THE CONFERENCE ROOM WHEN
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THIS COMMUNIQUE WAS READ, IT WAS FIRST OF ALL BECAUSE

OF RESPECT FOR MOST OF MY COLLEAGUES, AND PARTICULARLY FOR OUR HOST PRESIDENT KOUNTCHE; IT WAS ALSO BECAUSE OF THE SOLEMN CHARACTER OF THE CEREMONY.

I MUST ASK THAT AT THE BEGINNING OF THE CONFERENCE, THE MALIAN DELEGATION ATTEMPTED TO INTERRUPT OUR DELIBERATIONS BY CLAIMING THAT MALIAN OFFICIALS OF THE CEAO HAD BEEN QUESTIONED BY THE VOLTAN POLICE AND THAT, AS A RESULT, THE SECURITY OF THESE MALIAN NATIONALS WAS NOT GUARANTEED. THANKS TO THE WISDOM OF THE OTHER CHIEFS OF STATE, WE WERE ABLE TO OVERCOME THIS OBSTACLE AND TO CONTINUE OUR WORK.

I WAS, THEREFORE, SURPRISED TO HEAR IN THE COMMUNIQUE THE SPECIFIC REFERENCE TO UPPER VOLTA, WHEN WHAT WAS ACTUALLY INVOLVED WAS A GENERAL PRINCIPLE REGARDING RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE HOST COUNTRY AND THE OBLIGATIONS OF INTERNATIONAL FUNCTIONARIES LIVING THERE.

AN OLD SOLDIER LIKE ME MUST ASK HIMSELF THE FOLLOWING QUESTION: ARE THOSE WHO CRY THE LOUDEST ALWAYS RIGHT?

FOR ITS PART, UPPER VOLTA DOES NOT NEED TO RECEIVE ANY LESSONS ON INTERNATIONAL LAW OR MORALITY FROM ANYBODY.

I MUST FINALLY SAY THAT THE WORK DONE BY THE EXPERTS WAS EXCELLENT AND SHOULD ENABLE THE CEAO TO MAKE A RAPID START AND GET CONCRETE RESULTS; BUT ARE WE NOT BUILDING ON A FOUNDATION OF SAND?

DO WE REALLY HAVE THE COMMUNITY SPIRIT WHEN THERE ARE SOME AMONG US WHO ASPIRE TO COLONIZE THEIR NEIGHBORS? SHOULD WE NOT PARTICULARLY EXPRESS OUR REGRET AT THE ABSENCE OF THE PEACE AND BROTHERLY CONFIDENCE WHICH SHOULD EXIST AMONG US? THESE ARE FUNDAMENTAL QUESTIONS. UNQUOTE.GRAHAM

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